

- C<sup>2</sup>
37. The computer program product of claim 36 further comprising:  
identifying a source of the communication received on the first port of the network device; and  
maintaining an association of the identified source with the assigned group identifier of the first port.
38. The computer program product of claim 37, further comprising:  
identifying a destination of the communication;  
determining a group identifier assigned to the destination; and  
when a group identifier assigned to the destination and the group identifier assigned to the source are different, sending the communication out a client port not within the first plurality of ports.
39. The computer program product of claim 36, wherein the network device includes a client port not within the first plurality of ports, the method further comprising:  
receiving a multicast packet having a multicast destination address on the client port;  
identifying a group identifier within the multicast packet; and  
sending the multicast packet out on those ports having the same group identifier as the group identifier within the received multicast packet,  
wherein the group identifier is removed from the multicast packet before sending the multicast packet out from the network device.
- SUB B 40. The computer program product of claim 38, further comprising:  
indicating the group identifier of the first port within the communication sent out the client port; and  
replacing a redundant field within the communication with the group identifier.